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2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Note verbale dated 16 April 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretariat of the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

The Permanent Mission of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and has the honour to submit herewith the joint statement by the Ministers for foreign affairs of the States Parties to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia on behalf of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of the Kyrgyz Republic has the further honour to request that the present note and its annex be circulated as a document of the 2015 Review Conference.

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Annex to the note verbale dated 16 April 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretariat of the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

[Original: Russian]

Joint Statement by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the States Parties to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia

The Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan — the States parties to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia (hereinafter, CANWFZ), which was signed in Semipalatinsk on 8 September 2006 and entered into force on 21 March 2009—are pleased to note the signing of the Protocol to CANWFZ on Negative Security Assurances by representatives of the States of the "nuclear five" on 6 May 2014 in New York.

The countries that are party to CANWFZ have commitied themselves without qualification to obligations not to allow in their territory the production, acquisition, stationing, storage or use of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

The establishment of the zone constitutes an important step toward promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and in the environmental rehabilitation of territories affected by radioactive contamination. In that connection, we call attention to Resolution 68/218 of the General Assembly of the United Nations, "The Role of the International Community in Averting the Radiation Threat in Central Asia". The Central Asian non-nuclear zone is an effective contribution to combating international terrorism and preventing nuclear materials and technologies from falling into the hands of non-State actors, primarily terrorists.

An Action Plan has been adopted in the zone to strengthen nuclear security, prevent the proliferation of nuclear materials and combat nuclear terrorism in the Central Asian region. A draft multilateral treaty is being developed on cooperation in preventing illicit trafficking of nuclear materials and combating nuclear terrorism in the Central Asian region.

With the signing of the Treaty, a vast region in the centre of the Eurasian continent has become a zone permanently free of nuclear weapons. The Central Asian zone signatories are thereby making their own substantial contribution to strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and regional and global security.

We urge the States of the "nuclear five" — which are parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) — to ratify the Protocol as soon as possible, which will make it possible to complete the process of formally institutionalizing the zone and to markedly raise the level of mutual trust and security. The States parties to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia applaud the ratification by the French Republic and the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland of the Protocol to the Treaty on Negative Security Assurances.

We are convinced that that will be a solid joint contribution by the five Central Asian States and the five nuclear States parties to the NPT to the process of nuclear disarmament and to the strengthening of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and the peaceful use of nuclear energy on the path to the ideals of a world free of nuclear weapons